

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

OIC-04 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-07 SCI-06 DRC-01 /149 W

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R 062319Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2989

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 773

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, UN

SUBJ: OUTER SPACE: LEGAL ISSUES: ATTITUDES AND
INTENTIONS

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH US DEPTOFF EARLY IN REMOTE
SENSING WORKING GROUP (WGRS) SESSION, SOVIET DELOFF
ORDZHONIKIDZE STATED THAT SOVE DESIRED WGRS TO RE-
CONVENE EARLY NEXT YEAR EXPRESSLY TO ADDRESS LEGAL
ISSUES RELATING TO REMOTE SENSING AND IN PARTICULAR TO
DRAFT PRINCIPLES ALONG LINES OF PAST SOVIET SUGGESTIONS.
SOVS DESIRED SPECIAL WG ATTENTION TO LEGAL ISSUES PURPORTED-
LY ON GROUND THAT FULL AGENDA OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF
OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE WOULD REQUIRE SUCH DELAY IN CON-
SIDERATION OF LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS AREA THAT POPU-
LAR OPINION IN UN WOULD GRAVITATE TOWARD MORE EXTREME
BRAZILIAN PROPOSALS WHICH INCLUDE RESTRICTIONS ON CONDUCTING
SPACE ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS DISSEMINATION OF DATA.

2. SOVDELOFF INDICATED THAT THEYARE EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL OF AGREEMENT
ON MOON TREATY AT MAY 1974 SESSION OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE SOVS ANTI-
CIPATED THAT ON BASIS OF PRESENT LSC PRIORITIES ONLY ONE
WEEK WOULD BE DEVOTED TO BOTH REMOTE SENSING AND DIRECT
BROADCASTING IN LSC, LEAVING TIME ONLY FOR GENERAL STATE-
MENTS ON EACH.

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3. HOWEVER, SOVIET SUGGESTION THAT WGRS MEET EARLY IN 1975 FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION OF LEGAL ISSUES EVOKED WIDESPREAD RESISTANCE IN WG, AND SOVS HAVE SINCE THEN REVERSED GROUND AND PUSHED VERY HARD FOR QUOTE URGENT UNQUOTE CONSIDERATION OF REMOTE SENSING BY THE LSC. AGREEMENT FINALLY WAS REACHED ON LANGUAGE EXPRESSING THE OPINION OF THE WG THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT LSC CONSIDER REMOTE SENSING WITH HIGH PRIORITY.

4. ALTHOUGH SOVIET VIEWS APPARENTLY NOT YET FINAL ON ALLOCATION OF LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE TIME, RECENT INFORMAL COMMENTS INDICATE THERE IS SOME CHANCE THEY WILL WISH TO TRY TO MOVE VERY QUICKLY TO DEAL WITH MOON TREATY AND THE REGISTRATION TREATY SO AS TO GET ON WITH "MORE URGENT" MATTER OF REMOTE SENSING, REGARDLESS OF PRIORITIES SPELLED OUT IN RELEVANT GA RESOLUTION.

5. SOVDEL ALSO EXPRESSLY STATED THAT PURSUANT TO HIGH LEVEL MOSCOW DECISION, "AS A PART OF DETENTE" USSR WOULD NOT EXERT MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON DIRECT BROADCASTING ISSUE AT FORTHCOMING LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE SESSION, AS THEY CLEARLY POINTED OUT, THEY HAD REFRAINED FROM DOING SO LAST FALL DURING GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

COMMENT: SOVDEL ACKNOWLEDGED WITHOUT MUCH HESITATION, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIET INITIATIVE ON DBS WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN FAIR DEGREE OF MOMENTUM BECAUSE OF SUPPORT AND INTERESTS OF OTHER STATES IN ITS COMPLETION.
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